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C-Serial  
10-3-01

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

TAKAYUKI NIHEI

Appln. No. 09/700,973

Filed: November 21, 2000



RECEIVED

MAY 23 2001

Technology Center 2100

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: A PERIPHERAL UNIT FOR A PROGRAMMABLE CONTROLLER

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

However, since a statement can be made, a Statement is being filed so that in the event an Office action has issued but has not yet been received by the undersigned, the Examiner will proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/700,973

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard C. Turner  
Registration No. 29,710

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Date: January 3, 2001

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## STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Richard C. Turner  
 Registration No. 29,710

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Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)		U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office		Atty. Docket No. Q61053	Serial No. 09/700,973		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant: TAKAYUKI NIHEI				RECEIVED MAY 23 2001	
		Filing Date: November 21, 2000	Group: Not yet assigned	Technology Center 2100			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
							
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document	Date	Country	Class	Sub-class	Translation Yes/No
<i>JK</i>		JPA 8-272428	10/18/96	JAPAN			YES
<i>JK</i>		JPA 60-217411	10/31/85	JAPAN			YES
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER:	<i>Just Knepp</i>		DATE CONSIDERED: <i>5/12/03</i>				
EXAMINER:	Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.						